

Message Text

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44

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

CINCLANT

USCINCEUR

UNCLAS LUANDA 1290

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI AO

SUBJECT: HIGH COMMISSIONER RESPONDS TO MPLA COMMUNIQUE

1. IN A STRONGLY WORDED COMMUNIQUE OF AUGUST 29 THE MPLA POLITICAL BUREAU TOOK EXCEPTION TO THE SUSPENSION BY PORTUGAL OF THE ALVOR AGREEMENT AND THE CONCENTRATION OF EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. THE MPLA SAID IT REPUDIATED THE DECREES ISSUED IN LISBON WITHOUT ITS CONSENT. IT HAS BEEN THE MPLA, SAID THE COMMUNIQUE, THAT HAS MAINTAINED LAW AND ORDER AND BROUGHT PEACE TO MANY REGIONS. THE NEW MEASURE GIVES THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THE RIGHT TO DECLARE A STATE OF SIEGE, ANOTHER ANTI-MPLA MEASURE. WILL HE DECLARE A STATE OF SIEGE IN FNLA OCCUPIED TERRITORY. NO, BECAUSE ALL PORTUGUESE TROOPS HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM UIGE AND ZAIRE. MPLA HOPES THAT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WILL REVERSE ITSELF AND SEEK NEGOTIATED SOLUTIONS THAT SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE. MPLA WILL CONTINUE IN THE GOVERNMENT AND WILL FINALLY ASSUME ALL GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY ON NOVEMBER 11. THE MPLA, IT CONCLUDED,

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WILL NOT PERMIT THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO PLACE IN DOUBT

THE OBJECTIVES OF ITS STRUGGLE. THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE WILL NOT
ABDICATE THEIR RIGHTS AND WILL NOT HESITATE TO DEFEND THEM BY
FORCE OF ARMSJM

2. THE ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER RESPONDED ON AUGUST 30 WITH A
COMMUNIQUE IN WHICH HE REJECTED WHAT HE CALLED THE INSULTS AND
LIES USED WITH REFERENCE TO THE PORTUGUESE ARMED FORCES.
AS TO THE ACCUSATIONS MADE AGAINST THE PORTUGUESE
GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, IT WILL BE UP TO THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE
THE MEASURES REQUIRED BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
KILLORAN

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